

THE GUIDON

Vol. 2.

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No. 2.

THE GUIDON.

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The Channing Auxiliary,
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Among the weaknesses that are so despicable as to make vice seem respectable in comparison, is Insincerity. In its worse forms it passes from weakness to positive sin, and in any form is a rift in the lute that makes all music impossible. What utter lack of respect we feel for a man who has lead us to doubt whether he really means what he says, and this feeling grows into contempt when the man is a minister of the gospel, who may at least be supposed to be true. He can not afford to be anything else. His influence is absolutely dependent upon the confidence and trust that can not exist if any shade of untruthfulness be cast by his life or his word.

Rev. Mr. Crothers in a late sermon makes an earnest plea for a higher standard of sincerity among ministers, and quotes with righteous indignation the approval by a clergyman of high standing of the equivocal reply of a young candidate, when asked if he considered the Bible so inspired as to be without error. The young man hesitated and then said : " Yes—for all practical purposes." A miserable subterfuge. Mr. Crothers shows how unworthy such trifling is, and asks what would be the result if a carpenter used a square not a right angle but probably good enough for " practical purposes." He says : " The farmer cannot talk that way, the miner

cannot talk that way, no man who faces Nature directly dares to talk or think that way." Why should we be exact in material affairs and play fast and loose with the vital truths of mind and spirit?

Rev. Mr. Van Ness in a recent sermon told of letters he received from ministers in the East, serving in orthodox pulpits, stating their readiness to leave the old fold and come out as liberals, and asking if he could give them churches on the Pacific Coast, requesting that if he could not, that he should say nothing of the correspondence, as it would hurt them in their present parishes.

We want no such converts to our cause. If a man has convictions and will stand by them, taking the consequences, he may help and inspire his fellow-men, but a man who thinks one thing and preaches another, however brilliant or able he may be, is not wanted in a Unitarian pulpit.

There is ground for serious reflection in the many bitter and bloody strikes that follow in such rapid succession. Homestead, Idaho, Tennessee, Buffalo—all show a condition of feeling most deplorable. The causes and responsibility may not easily be stated, but no injustice will be done in assuming that there is much blame on both sides, and it is certainly true that both the injustice and passionate disregard of law and order result from a disregard of those principles of right and wrong that would animate every breast if love of God and love of man reigned there. The main difficulty is lack of this love, and the sympathy that flows from it. Men are selfish and willful, and hate whatever and whoever comes between them and their purpose. On the one hand is hard feeling, unconcern and the unscrupulous use of the power of wealth ; on the other, envy, discontent, distrust and a readiness to outrage law, justice and right in wielding the power

gained through association. With this state of feeling the clash of forces is a constant danger, and it can never be averted as long as the feeling remains. The Good Will that Christ proclaimed comes slowly, and until it is much more firmly established it is the duty of society to compel as fully as it may the general methods that would prevail under it.

No contention for more or less wages should be allowed to precipitate a war, where the innocent are the greatest sufferers. The community has rights, and it must insist upon them. It may say to capital and to labor, "You shall settle your differences without violating the law." Compulsory arbitration may be insisted upon, and then the violation of law would deserve and should receive firm and severe treatment, to the end that order might prevail, and that the State should not be compelled to take sides in a quarrel that good feeling, sympathy and a sense of justice and fair dealing could readily have prevented.

THE COMING CONFERENCE.

The seventh annual session of the Pacific Unitarian Conference will be held in Oakland September 26th to 29th. The San Jose Church will be dedicated on the 25th, so as to command the attendance and participation of delegates. The program has not been announced, but it will be an interesting one without doubt. Live topics will be handled by our ablest men and women, and THE GUIDON urges a generous attendance by laymen. It will pay in every way to put aside work and put yourself in the way of being warmed and strengthened in the upper tier. One session will be conducted by the Sunday School Union, and one at least by the Woman's Conference. Oakland energy is proverbial, and if the coming session does not surpass any previous one, it will be apt to come very near it.

A subscriber puts the question, "What is the first mention in the Bible of liberal Christianity?" and cites Isaiah 32, 8 as the first reference he has found.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE.

The churches of Oregon and Washington have felt for some time that they needed a Conference which should hold its meetings where all could attend them conveniently. They value the Pacific Conference, and are as anxious as ever to support it; but they realize that, except in the rare cases in which that Conference meets in the Northwest, they are able to derive no immediate benefit from it, except through an occasional delegate. When the Conference meets at San Diego it is 1863 miles distant from Spokane, the most remote church, twice as far as from Boston to Chicago; and when it meets at Sacramento it will still be 630 miles from Salem, its nearest neighbor in the Northwest. Even the shortest distance is so great as practically to prohibit all but a very few from attending from the churches of the Northwest. Hence the amount of inspiration that these churches have been able to gain from the Conferences has been rather scanty.

It was natural, therefore, that when six Unitarian ministers, and a goodly number of representative laymen, found themselves together at the recent dedication of the new church at Puyallup, they should have seized the opportunity for organizing "The Pacific Northwest Conference of Unitarian and other Liberal Christian Churches."

After a full discussion of the question of organizing a local conference, in which there was complete unity of sentiment, a constitution was drawn up and adopted, and officers elected as follows: President, Joseph Shippen, Esq., Seattle; Vice President—Mr. Samuel Collyer, Tacoma; Secretary and Treasurer—Rev. Earl M. Wilbur, Portland; Executive Committee—The President, *ex officio*; Mr. A. D. Hale, Macmillen; Rev. B. B. Brown, Salem; Mr. Ezra Meeker, Puyallup; Mrs. G. M. Savage, Olympia.

The new Conference will hold its annual meeting in the spring of each year, and other meetings at such times as may seem desirable, leaving the fall free for the meeting of the Pacific Conference. It is its purpose to co-operate with the larger Conference, and supplement its work as regards the North-

west. Within its province are already eight regularly organized churches, besides three or four others in an embryo stage, and several Universalist churches which we shall be glad to have co-operate with us for promoting Liberal Christianity in the Northwest.

May I say, by way of suggestion, that I believe the churches of the Northwest would be content if the Pacific Conference, instead of ever meeting at either extreme of the coast, should decide henceforth to meet always at some central place, that is, somewhere in the vicinity of San Francisco Bay; and leave to local Conferences, such as the one just formed here, one to be formed by the churches of Southern California, and perhaps a third about San Francisco, the important work of meeting from church to church, discussing questions of local interest, and giving needed impulse to the work. This would give us three local Conferences of (at present) about ten churches each, besides the Pacific Conference for the whole coast; each church might receive with comparative frequency the benefit of a visit from a Conference; and the necessary expense and time for traveling would be reduced to a minimum.—EARL MORSE WILBUR.

SAN JOSE CHURCH.

The Unitarian Church building is now nearly completed. It presents a fine appearance—situated upon one of the most eligible sites in the city, directly opposite Saint James Park. The cost of the church, including the lot and furnishings, is about thirty thousand dollars. The auditorium will seat between five and six hundred people, and the hall about four hundred. The dining-room will accommodate one hundred at the tables. The church is planned for service. The various societies connected with the church are in a flourishing condition. The "Library Circle" has furnished the reading-room with about thirty magazines and other periodicals. "The Young People's Fraternity" has assumed the expense of furnishing the parlor. "The Social and Dramatic Circle" has furnished the dining-room and

kitchen. The attendance at the Sunday School is rapidly increasing.

It has been arranged to hold the dedication services on Sunday, September 25th, in connection with the yearly conference at Oakland. It is expected that the sermon at the morning service will be given by Rev. J. S. Thomson, of Los Angeles. There will be a platform meeting in the evening. It is expected that there will be a large number of speakers in attendance. An earnest invitation is here extended to all our friends to be present with us. The order of exercises will appear in the programs for the conference.

The church is closed for a vacation of four weeks. Services will be resumed in the hall of the church Sept. 11th.—N. A. HASKELL.

SOCIETY FOR CHRISTIAN WORK.

On Monday afternoon, August 15th, the Society for Christian Work reassembled in the church parlors with much cordiality and enthusiasm. The ladies seemed refreshed after their long vacation and took up the work with vigor and courage. Without a dissenting or protesting voice it was determined to hold a bazar early in November, probably on the first and second. A church bazar, as managed by this society, has none of the terrors commonly associated with the name. It is a matter of pride as well as principle that no raffle or other form of sugar-coated gambling be indulged in. No one is importuned or overcharged or robbed of change. In fact the many disreputable practices that too often bring discredit, and ought to bring the blush of shame, are vigorously avoided, and the bazar as given is a pleasant assembly of ladies, where desirable articles are offered at reasonable prices, and where in every form of entertainment, for body or mind, no one is called upon to spend anything without receiving a full equivalent. The Society for Christian Work is justifying its name. The ladies work, and their work is Christian in the best sense. The steady relief of the poor and afflicted, with delicacy and sympathy, is not, and ought never to be, showy, but in effect is as far reaching as the genial rays of the sun.

HOW SHALL WE TEACH IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL?

[Extract from paper read at Sunday School Convention, in San Francisco, May 14th, 1892.]

Were I to be asked to teach a young class history, I should not begin with Greece and Rome, but San Francisco, California, and lead back to the foundation of government and civilized life.

So in Sunday School, where we meet our classes each week, hoping to give them something that will help them to live nearer the good, nearer God, I would commence with the beautiful lives, the beautiful words of our own time; always leading back to the words of the great Teacher, who taught us to say "Our Father," and then further back to the wise and good men, who made the flowering and completion of his life possible.

And while a stranger visiting my class might think there was much of Whittier, Longfellow, and Emerson, I should feel that it all lead back to the book of books.

Believing in this method, I have asked my class, when their names are called for the marking of attendance to respond by giving some beautiful thought they have read during the week.

I am often surprised with the beauty of their selections, and pleased with the improvement from month to month. Many of the selections are sermons in themselves, and the comments they suggest form an excellent lesson in ethics.

Usually I do not ask my class to read continuous chapters of any book in the Bible, believing at their age, from fourteen to sixteen years, they could not understand it, and it would only mystify. But each week I ask them to read short passages, which I select for them, something which can be applied to daily conduct, and that will illustrate, if possible, the lesson of the next Sunday; asking them always to try to read intelligently, by knowing, as far as possible, who wrote the book from which we have taken the selection for our lesson, and some knowledge of what is taught there.

I believe this method will better teach a young person to love the Bible and reverence its teachings, so that in later years he

will naturally go to it for help; certainly it will lead to that end more surely than the memorizing of long passages with no definite object.

Not long since I heard a Sunday School worker recommend written examinations in the Sunday School. I do not believe that we are fully sensible of the object of the Sunday School when we adopt such methods. Neither would I use maps nor charts too much. The child comes to us weary with overteaching and crowding of the week day school. I would make the Sunday work just as different as possible. Let it be an inspiration toward *living* the true and the beautiful, that the young person is everywhere, in these happy days, being taught, rather than an effort to crowd a few more facts into the already weary brain.

They come to the Sunday School to learn "The Greatest Thing in The World," love, love to God and love to man. This is not taught with books, nor charts, nor maps.

SARAH S. B. YULE.

STARR KING FRATERNITY, OAKLAND.

The program of the Starr King Fraternity for the coming season (1892-93) will shortly be announced in printed form. Excepting a series of chamber musicales and public lecture evenings, the work will be done largely in classes, of which the following is a list to date: In languages, German will be studied under Mme. Welle; and French under Mme. Ferrier. Sections in various branches of English literature will be organized by Mrs. L. R. Griffin and Mrs. K. B. Fisher. Art sections will be under Mrs. L. E. Kelley and others. In science, there will be studies in practical microscopy of ordinary textures, under Dr. F. O. Jacobs of the University; physiology, under Mr. E. Von Adelung; and a section in evolution. History sections will be organized by Rev. A. D. Cutler, and a very interesting course on the history of music will be directed by Miss Flora C. Kendall. The privileges of the sections will be open to Fraternity members only. The reading room will be open every day and evening except Sunday morn-

ings, and is supplied with all the best magazines and periodicals, both American and foreign.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The schedule of lessons prepared last year by the direction of the Union and adopted by many of our Pacific Coast schools, ends with the month of August. As stated in our last issue, the proposed schedule for the coming year has been given up, as it was thought wiser to throw what influence we have toward adopting the attractive lessons prepared by the Unitarian Sunday School Society of Boston. These lessons have been ordered in quantity, so that the wholesale rate may be obtained, and any school in our Union may order the number they require at the minimum rate. Mrs. Jaynes' illustrated lessons on the Life of Jesus, containing thirty-six sheets in an envelope, may be had at fifteen cents per set. "Noble Lives and Noble Deeds," which may be used by all the school above the first grade and below the bible class, is issued in a weekly four-page lesson paper, which can be furnished at one cent each. There are forty numbers in the course, making the expense forty cents per year for each pupil, postage added. Orders for these supplies may be sent to Chas. A. Murdock, 532 Clay street. It is the purpose of the Union to be helpful in any way to any of the Pacific Coast schools, and correspondence as to their wants will be gladly received and all possible aid given.

Edward Everett Hale and his wife are enjoying part of the summer in Europe. This trip was one of Dr. Hale's many gifts on his seventieth birthday. It is gratifying that such a man is so appreciated, and that his parishioners and friends testified their regard in so substantial a manner. It is said that the gifts of money reached \$20,000, and as a lifetime spent for others leaves him a poor man, it is entirely fitting that those to whom he has ministered with such fervor and fidelity should profit by his teaching and in this beautiful manner *lend a hand* to him who has inspired many so to "do unto others."

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES.

The Onward Club announce a very attractive entertainment, to be given on the 16th of September, as a benefit to THE GUIDON to meet the deficit incurred in the first year of publication. "A Box of Monkeys," a clever play, will be presented. Tickets, 50 cts. It hopes for a generous response to its efforts.

Wishing to encourage regularity of attendance in the Sunday school, we announce a yearly roll of honor, on which are placed the names of the ten pupils in the school having the largest percentage. During the past year there have been forty-seven sessions of the school. The ten highest in attendance, with their percentage, is as follows: Stella Ford 100, Willie Ford 100, Alice Folsom 97, Chas. Bruce 97, Lilian Parker 95, Hattie Fickett 95, Ethel Parker 95, Mae Folsom 95, Margery Gibbons 93, Horatio W. Stebbins 93.

The successful entertainment by the K. Y. T. (Mrs. Louise Humphrey Smith's class), resulted in a profit of over \$50. This sum has been set aside as the cornerstone of a Fund to establish a Pilgrim Sunday School bed in the Children's Hospital. A hundred and seventy-five dollars will be required, and the Lend-a-Hand Club, and any one else interested in helping that very deserving and very poorly supported charity is asked to contribute generously and speedily to make up the sum.

A very pleasant reception was tendered the Starr King Fraternity of Oakland in the First Unitarian Church on the evening of August 26. The Onward club were the hosts, and cordiality and fun reigned for the evening. By way of set entertainment, Miss Grace Fisher read exquisitely Hans Christian Andersen's delightful fairy tale, "The Swineherd," which was illustrated by a series of tableaux. The grouping was charmingly arranged, and the tableaux formed a dainty and most artistic setting to the pretty story.

Supper was served later, at flower-laden tables by the young ladies, and completed a very pleasant evening.

THE IDEAL.

As when we stand upon the mountain's crest
 That view of some broad country does command,
 And see it all in higher truth expressed,
 And watch the shadows drifting o'er the land;—
 Now and again, (to me, most oft at night
 In sleepless hours that end some well-filled day)
 Life gives us pause, and lets our clearer sight
 Fall with rare power upon her strange array.
 We cannot dwell in such a lofty station,
 We must descend and earn our daily bread;
 And yet perhaps those moods of exaltation
 Should give some hint whereby we might be led:
 Can we not bear those memories in our mind
 Like some plain map, that duty be not blind?
 F. G. B.

PILGRIM SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The thirty-ninth anniversary of our Sunday School was celebrated on the 14th of August, which happened to be its truly birthday. It was founded on the 14th, and we keep the Sunday nearest to that date, but this year we hit it exactly. The morning was a very lovely one, as bright and beautiful as the infant class children that led the march up the main aisle of the church, at 11 o'clock, bearing the historic banner presented in 1856. The Onward Club committee had given the church a very handsome harvest dress. A bold mass of sorghum ten feet long, intermingled with yellow corn, swept across the space back of the pulpit. At the side was a stack of melons, squashes and fruit, beautiful in color, with a background of wheat in the sheaf. The Font formed a vase for grapevines and clusters, while the choir-screen was thatched with wheaten straw. In front of the pulpit was a table heaped with several hundreds of little bunches of flowers that united to form a magnificent bouquet.

The exercises were simple but beautiful. An opening song, "Angels Holy," was followed by the Oral Liturgy, recited in alternate verse by the school and Superintendent. Then the choir sang an anthem, followed by the responsive harvest service from the Hymnal. The Infant Class recited in concert a very pretty little poem appropriate to the occasion, and the school sang "Helpfulness," its favorite song.

For the second time in his pastorate of twenty-eight years Dr. Stebbins was absent from the city. The address that he was accustomed to make was divided between Mr. Chas. A. Langston and Rev. Thomas Van Ness, both of whom were followed with close interest. Mr. Langston spoke with a fine spirit of harvest, and of the estimation in which we should hold it; while Mr. Van Ness told of the festivals in its honor among the ancient nations, closing with an earnest appeal for unselfish service.

The report of the Superintendent showed the school to be not large but in general good order. A membership of about 300, with the highest monthly average of 240; a good infant class, a large and interested bible class, and eighteen classes in the main school. The disbursements for the year were about \$400. The principal wants of the school were a few good teachers, more pupils, more prompt and regular attendance and more serious study.

There was more singing, the concert reading of selections from the Bible about the harvest, and the benediction. It is the custom to present each pupil as he passes out with a bouquet, as a souvenir of the occasion. Mr. Murdock suggested that the school apply the principle of Mr. Van Ness' advice, by taking the bouquets across to the Ladies' Protection and Relief Society in token of good-will as friends and neighbors, and giving them to the children there whose only home it was. This was acted upon, and it is hoped that the children went home with fuller hearts because they went with empty hands.

One pleasant feature of these birthdays is the reunion of those who have passed out of the school without forgetting it. After dismissal they gather to exchange greetings and speak of the good old days. Miss Martin, formerly Assistant Superintendent, now of Oakland; Mrs. Meade, also of Oakland, five years a pupil and five a teacher; Miss Atkinson, who as a tot of a girl responded for the school when the banner was presented, and many others, came up for their bouquets and to express their continued interest.

SUNDRIES.

Our esteemed brother, Rev. G. R. Dodson, of Alameda, is a happy man, in that a sunny son sheds blessed beams upon his home. May the little colleague lift up his voice at opportune times, be liberal with his smiles, and fill his hearers with light and joy.

A thief lately helped himself to the clock in the Unitarian church at Los Angeles. Why he selected a Unitarian clock is not known. He may have thought that a church that was up to the times would not keep a clock that would run behind. Or he may have considered that with their larger faith in the possibilities of eternity they had more time to spare.

The following lines, which headed brother Wendte's calendar on the Sunday following his return, show that he was proof against all foreign blandishments, that notwithstanding all temptation his heart was always in the left place:

"Home again—from a foreign strand."

"East, West,—Home's best."

"Tell me, gentle traveler, who hast wandered through the world, and seen the sweetest roses blow, and brightest gliding rivers,—of all thine eyes have seen, which is the fairest land?"

"Shall I tell thee where nature is most blest and fair? It is where those we love abide. Though that space be small, ample it is above kingdoms; though it be a desert, through it runs the river of paradise, and there are the enchanted bowers."

—Persian, 13th century.

The Unitarian Headquarters for the Pacific Coast have been removed to No. 10 Post street, where Miss M. A. Turner, Secretary in charge, may be found at all business hours. The location is central, and it will prove a great convenience for friends of the cause. Unitarian literature will be on sale. Subscriptions will be taken for any of our publications, including THE GUIDON; and information regarding our churches and ministers may be readily obtained.

Mr. Joseph Shippen of Seattle seems to fit in with ease and comfort to many places. He made a pleasant address at the opening of the Chautauqua Assembly, at Lake Chautauqua, on July 22d. He speaks thus of the growth of the movement.

"This is a branch of the great people's college, which has expanded from a small beginning, eighteen years ago, on the banks of Lake Chautauqua, in the southwest corner of New York State, among the English-speaking throughout the world. There are no less than fifty-two assemblies, and this is one of the five on the Pacific Coast. While the graduates number some 30,000, having diplomas, while the members are to be counted by hundreds of thousands, the number of persons indirectly brought under the influence, through homes and schools, can only be estimated by millions."

Among our valued exchanges is *The Evangel*, published by Rev. Edgar Leavitt, at Santa Cruz, Cal. It is a bold and ardent supporter of Universalism, and shows much pluck and courage.

To publish such a paper in a town of the size of Santa Cruz, is an achievement that shows admirable devotion to the cause. From its last issue we learn that that The First Universalist Church, of San Francisco, is in good condition, and feels greatly encouraged. The Woman's Aid Society meets twice a month, and is hard at work to raise \$2000, which it has pledged for the movement.

THE GUIDON is embarrassed at being obliged to carry over nearly four pages of attractive matter, including a delightful account of a trip "through Spain—third class," by its valued contributor F. G. B. It was only the trip that was third-class; the account of it is first-class. A timely article by Rev. B. F. McDaniel, on Social Sympathy, in another of the left over articles—to appear in our next. We mention this fact to show that if the support of our paper warranted it, we could readily fill more space, and add to its value in every way.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD.

[Contributions for this department are always acceptable. We wish to make it a comprehensive report of the true condition of our churches, and a means of friendly intercourse that ought to be helpful to all. Kindly see that the communications reach us by the 25th of each month.]

Rev. Roderick Stebbins, of Milton, Mass., preached in the First Church on August 21st, and left for his Eastern home in the afternoon of the same day. His sermon, on "Law and Love," was listened to with great interest, and in the breast of the comrades and friends of his boyhood days with a feeling of pride. He treated the theme with firmness, and left no one in doubt as to his position. The words of the Psalmist, "He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up up their wounds; He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by name," were not an echo of an early and ignorant age. Their truth is in no wise dimmed by all the knowledge of the physical world that we have gained. Law is not a substitute for love, and can never take its place. The truth of the ancient Scripture is expressed in modern form by Browning, when he says:

"All's law, yet all's love."

This love, revealed pre-eminently in Jesus the Christ, each soul must find for himself. Another may lift the veil, another may show the way, but our own eyes must see the glory, our own feet must tread the path.

The discourse showed a deep reverence and a broad, calm view of these two great manifestations of the Almighty Maker and Father.

Rev. Dr. Stebbins occupied his pulpit on August 28th, after a six weeks' vacation, preaching a sermon suggestive of his rest in the country. The sheltering fig tree had called to his mind the frequency with which it appears in the Bible narrative, and he dwelt on some of the incidents and the lessons of human nature to be drawn from them. He seems much refreshed, and spoke with old-time vigor. During his absence the pulpit has been filled twice by Mr. Van Ness, twice by Rev. W. S. Vail, of St. Paul, and once by his son, Roderick Stebbins. The collection for the Pacific Unitarian Conference was taken up in accordance with the request lately issued by the directors, who

desire to report to the Conference that all demands are met, and that something remains for the coming year. There is great activity among the ladies in the various societies. In another column mention is made of the plans of the Society for Christian Work. The Channing Auxiliary will soon announce an attractive series of afternoon lectures. The Calendar Committee enters upon its Fall campaign with bright hopes.

ALAMEDA.—The vacation is over here, as the church congregations and attendance at Unity Circle plainly show. Every one seems full of courage, and numerous plans are half formulated for the year's work.

A "Strawberry Matinee," given by ladies of Unity Circle at the pretty home of their President, Mrs. Shattuck, was a great success from both a social and financial point of view. Orchestral music was rendered during the entire afternoon, and dainty refreshments served in a dining-room decorated with strawberries in baskets and clusters nestling among their own vines.

Mr. Dodson has arranged for a course of lectures on Evolution by David Starr Jordan, to be given in Lindermann's Opera House—the season to open September 21st. The building committee are preparing plans for the new church which they hope soon to build.

BERKELEY.—The society will be glad to have their pastor with them again, after his two months' absence in the East. Mr. Payne is an earnest thinker and worker, and his absence has made it more than ever realized how much he is appreciated and how much there is need of just such a man in the Berkeley church.

The Woman's Auxiliary has been planning a Garden Party, which is to be on the afternoon and evening of September 3d, at the large and elegant grounds of Capt. Thomas, in North Berkeley. There will be carriages at the Berryman station to take visitors up to the grounds, where a fine dinner will be served; many kinds of entertainment, good music, games, etc., are all on the program, and a general good time is expected. All friends in the adjoining towns are especially invited.

OAKLAND.—Rev. C. W. Wendte has returned from his four months' vacation in England, Scotland, Switzerland and Germany. He is in remarkably good health and spirits, and full of ideas and plans for the liberal cause on this coast. On Friday evening, August 19th, the Oakland Unitarians gave him a rousing reception, over three hundred parishioners and friends being present. Mr. Wendte discarded somewhat on his vacation abroad, and Rev. Mr. Vail, of St. Paul, who was a guest, made a very pleasant speech.

On the Sunday following the church was crowded. Mr. Wendte preached on the impressions and lessons of foreign travel, weaving into his discourse some of his recent experiences.

The church and Sunday school are in full operation again, services having been maintained all summer.

Mr. Wendte's address after September 1st will be 668 Fourteenth street, directly opposite the Unitarian church.

Mr. Wendte announces illustrated Sunday evening lectures on England, architecture in the service of the church, etc.

SANTA ANA.—Santa Ana, Cal., is a town of five thousand inhabitants, the county seat of Orange county, and has twelve orthodox churches. In November last a Unitarian society was organized, with Rev. E. R. Watson as its pastor, and with the most encouraging interest has the liberal cause grown until they feel they have "come to stay." Sunday School is held after service. The Unity Club is well attended. Emerson and his Concord friends have been the study, and Hawthorne and his works read and discussed. The ladies have their Auxiliary, Club and are preparing for a little fair in the autumn.

STOCKTON.—Rev. W. E. Copeland is now on a vacation, the services having been closed on the 14th of August. The intensely warm weather made this a necessity. On Mr. Copeland's return from Tacoma in early September he will visit Palo Alto, and arrange for his son's entry into the Leland Stanford Jr. University. The church will be reopened September 11th.

LOS ANGELES.—Vacation days affording no late items, we copy from the *Times* of July 25th an account of a pleasant social event: "The parlors of the Hollenbeck were crowded last evening with the representative men and women of Unity Church, who came to meet socially Rev. Mila F. Tupper, of Grand Rapids, Mich.—a lady with a strong, intellectual face, quiet, womanly ways, and an accepted minister of the Unitarian Church. The reception was tendered by the ladies of the Unity League, Mmes. F. E. Fay, Boal and Miss Smith receiving the guests. A wealth of beautiful flowers decorated cabinets and mantels, and after the company had been presented individually to Mrs. Tupper, the hum of conversation was hushed long enough to listen to some singing by Miss Boynton and Herr Arnold Kutner. Mrs. Tupper will occupy the pulpit of Unity Church to-morrow evening."

SACRAMENTO.—The push and persistency of our little society cannot be better illustrated than by saying that in spite of our pastorless condition we have kept up continuous religious services all through the warm summer months. During July and August we have had the pleasure of listening to Revs. Messrs. Van Ness, Haskell, Dodson and Vail, and twice the pulpit has been supplied by one of the Trustees, Mr. Arthur Seymour. The Woman's Auxiliary has held its meetings, and planned out work for the coming year. Quite recently, by a full vote, it was decided to have the Auxiliary join the Woman's Conference as a branch. Delegates will be sent to the Oakland Convention, both from Church and the Auxiliary. The Rev. Mr. Horner, our new pastor, writes that he will arrive here the last week in September. It has been thought wise to discontinue services until he can take charge personally. The Sunday School, however, will continue to hold regular sessions, and thus maintain a nucleus upon which to build this coming season. The visiting clergymen have done us much good in inspiring and keeping up our courage, and we face the new year with new hopes, and full determination to achieve success.

MISSION UNITARIAN CHURCH, SAN FRANCISCO.—This young and vigorous society has a Woman's Auxiliary, consisting of seventy-four members. At a late meeting it was resolved to hold the proposed "Bag Sociable" on the evening of September 14th, and to charge the small admission price of ten cents.

The Harvest Festival, under the management of Miss Morrison's class, was a memorable occasion. The program of exercises was arranged and carried out entirely by the children, and at the close of the service the fruits and vegetables were given to the Boys and Girls Aid Society. During Mr. Van Ness' absence the pulpit has been supplied by Rev. W. S. Vail, of St. Paul.

SANTA BARBARA.—We have enjoyed a rare treat in the presence and kindly voice of our old friend and former fellow-townsmen, the Rev. S. M. Crothers, now of St. Paul. Mr. Crothers has preached twice for Mr. Thacher, and it was noticeable that some of the faces present belonged to former Presbyterian members of Mr. Crothers' church, as also at the lecture on Poetry which the same gentleman gave us. Mr. Van Ness has also been here, and will return in time to fill the pulpit on September 4th.

Our new church, which is now so nearly finished, becomes more and more satisfactory as the work proceeds, and we have a chance to feel at home in its use. The beautiful memorial windows, placed in position by the Winchesters and the relatives of Mrs. White, are admired by the many strangers who come to the Hotel Arlington, across the street, as well as by our own people. Much taste has also been displayed in decoration of the new organ, which fills its niche to the left of the pulpit. Our parlors still wait to be carpeted and furnished, but in the meantime we use them for Sunday School purposes. Mr. Thacher has worked long and earnestly to bring about present conditions, often against much discouragement, and always against business depression and consequent tightening in money affairs; nevertheless, in spite of the difficulties, we hope to dedicate before the year is out, free from debt. If so, the credit will belong to our loved pastor.

PUYALLUP, WASH.—The spacious auditorium of the Unitarian church was filled with eager listeners both morning and evening on Sunday, July 21st, the occasion of the dedication of the new church. The pulpit and platform were tastefully decorated with cut and potted flowers; behind and above the pulpit were the words, "God is Love," in a beautifully suspended semi-circle of evergreens.

The order of morning service was as follows: Organ prelude; Scripture reading, by Rev. A. S. Parker; Hymn; Prayer, by Rev. Mrs. Aitken, of Seattle; Anthem, by the choir; Responsive reading, by Rev. Mr. Green and congregation; Dedication hymn; Sermon, by Rev. Mr. Greer; Solo, by H. Maybin; History of the church, by J. V. Meeker; Financial Statement, by Joseph Shippen, of Seattle; Solo, by Mrs. G. M. Acly; Address to new members, by Rev. Napoleon Hoagland, of Olympia; Hymn; Benediction.

Rev. Mr. Greer's sermon was a most excellent one, and heartily appreciated by all who heard it. The financial statement showed that the indebtedness was only \$242, more than half of which was raised in about five minutes. In the evening the new minister, Rev. C. W. Green, of Cambridge, Mass., was ordained. Rev. Earl Wilbur, of Portland, preached a very eloquent sermon suitable for the occasion.

A young people's Unity Club has recently been organized, to meet weekly. The sixteen charter members are being rapidly added to.

SPOKANE, WASH.—In spite of the announcement of the *Register* that Mr. Stocks had accepted a call to Rockland, Mass., we can authoritatively state that he is coming to Spokane, and will commence his labors the latter part of September.

PORTLAND, OR.—For the first time in our church's history we are able to keep the church open every Sunday through the summer; and our congregations have been so gratifyingly large that the experiment is completely justified. The Sunday School is omitted during August.

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